Boys	Girls
441	414

(b) Number of seats/beneficiaries covered by the constructed hostels for ST boys and girls from 1992-93 till date are as under:—

Boys	Girls
17,194	21,798

(c) No such complaint has been received.

(d) Does not arise.

Healing properties of Fish Medicine

*110. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ascertained the facts about "fish medicine being administered for Asthma in some parts of the country;

(b) whether there is any scientific basis for the prescription; and

(c) if not, the reasons for allowing the run of "Asthma Mail"?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) There are several practices prevalent in the country for treatment of Asthma besides standard medical management. Due to local beliefs and cultural factors, the community practices various treatment measures including the Fish Treatment of Hyderabad. There has been no scientific investigation by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare into the medical efficacy of this treatment. Unless a properly designed randomized controlled trial is carried out, it is not possible to comment on the efficacy.

There is no train called "Asthma Mail" run by the Railways. In case of heavy demand of traffic for a particular direction, extra coaches are attached/special trains are run depending on traffic pattern, operational feasibility and availability of resources.